

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

To:

Commissioner
US Department of Commerce
United States Patent and Trademark
Office, PCT
2011 South Clark Place Room
CP2/5C24
Arlington, VA 22202
ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE
in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing:

08 March 2001 (08.03.01)

International application No.:

PCT/AU00/01004

Applicant's or agent's file reference:

International filing date:

25 August 2000 (25.08.00)

Priority date:

27 August 1999 (27.08.99)

Applicant:

KRKOABIC, Lazo

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:



in the demand filed with the International preliminary Examining Authority on:

06 December 2000 (06.12.00)



in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was



was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO
34, chemin des Colombettes
1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

Authorized officer:

J. Zahra

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY PCT

REC'D 24 JUL 2001

WIFO PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference cen01 252	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416).
International Application No. PCT/AU00/01004	International Filing Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 25 August 2000	Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 27 August 1999
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁷ A01M 21/04, E01H 11/00, B29C 45/14		
Applicant CENTROGEN HOLDINGS PTY LTD et al		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☒ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 7 sheet(s).

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|------|-------------------------------------|---|
| I | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Basis of the report |
| II | <input type="checkbox"/> | Priority |
| III | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| IV | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Lack of unity of invention |
| V | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| VI | <input type="checkbox"/> | Certain documents cited |
| VII | <input type="checkbox"/> | Certain defects in the international application |
| VIII | <input type="checkbox"/> | Certain observations on the international application |

Date of submission of the demand 6 December 2000	Date of completion of the report 13 July 2001
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer ZBIGNIEW BIELAWSKI Telephone No. (02) 6283 2218

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application:*
- ☐ the international application as originally filed.
- ☒ the description, pages **1, 5-12**, as originally filed,
pages **2-3**, received on **24 April 2001** with the letter of **24 April 2001**
pages **4**, received on **25 June 2001** with the letter of **25 June 2001**
- ☒ the claims, pages , as originally filed,
pages **13**, received on **29 March 2001** with the letter of **29 March 2001**
pages **14**, received on **24 April 2001** with the letter of **24 April 2001**
pages **15-16**, received on **25 June 2001** with the letter of **25 June 2001**
- ☒ the drawings, pages **1/13-13/13**, as originally filed,
pages , filed with the demand,
pages , received on with the letter of
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
pages , as originally filed
pages , filed with the demand
pages , received on with the letter of
2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).
3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:
- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished
4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages
- ☐ the claims, Nos.
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig.
5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report

III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be nonobvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

☐ the entire international application,

☒ claims Nos: **15-18**

because:

☒ the said international application, or the said claims Nos. **15-18** relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (*specify*):

Contrary to Rule 6.2(a) PCT claims 15-18 refers to the description and the drawings.

☐ the description, claims or drawings (*indicate particular elements below*) or said claims Nos. are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (*specify*):

☐ the claims, or said claims Nos. are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

☒ no international search report has been established for said claim Nos. **15-18**

2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:

☐ the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

☐ the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

IV. Lack of unity of invention

1. In response to the invitation to restrict or pay additional fees the applicant has:

- ☐ restricted the claims.
- ☒ paid additional fees.
- ☐ paid additional fees under protest.
- ☐ neither restricted nor paid additional fees.

2. ☐ This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose, according to Rule 68.1, not to invite the applicant to restrict or pay additional fees.

3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is

- ☐ complied with.
- ☒ not complied with for the following reasons:

The international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention because it does not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. In coming to this conclusion the International Preliminary Examination Authority has found that there are different inventions as follows:

1. Claims 1 to 9 are directed to a rotatable applicator head, a hand held motor driven applicator including a rotatable applicator head and a method of constructing a rotatable applicator head wherein a wall about a recess on a part of the head is moulded about plurality of applicator wicks. It is considered that the underlined feature comprises a first "special technical feature".
2. Claims 10 to 14 (claim 12 and 13 when appended to claim 10) are directed to a thermoplastic product (claim 14) and method of forming thereof wherein a thermoplastic material is injected about a compressed portion of porous material supported in a mould cavity. It is considered that the underlined feature comprises a second "special technical feature".

Since the abovementioned groups of claims do not share any of the technical features identified, a "technical relationship" between the inventions, as defined in PCT rule 13.2 does not exist. Accordingly the international application does not relate to one invention or to a single inventive concept, a priori.

4. Consequently, the following parts of the international application were the subject of international preliminary examination in establishing this report:

- ☐ all parts.
- ☒ the parts relating to claims Nos. **1 to 14**

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-14	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-14	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-14	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)**Novelty (N) and Inventive Step (IS)**

The features of independent claims 1, 8, 9, and 10 are not found in any single application or patent published before the earliest priority date of the claims.
Therefore the subject matter of this claims is new.

Claims 2-7 and 11-14 are dependent claims, hence these claims are also considered novel.

The claimed invention is not obvious in the light of any of the cited documents nor disclosed in any obvious combination, nor would the claimed invention be obvious to a person skilled in the art in the light of common general knowledge by itself or in combination with any of these documents.

In one aspect, the present invention resides broadly in a rotatable applicator head including a first part and a second part, the first part being moulded of a plastics material and being disk-like in form with a central recess formed therein, and said second part being secured to said first part to define a liquid storage chamber between said first and second parts for storing a liquid to be applied to the surface of a field, garden or crop, and a plurality of applicator wicks extending through a wall of said recess towards the periphery of said first part and having a portion thereof within said recess, characterised in that said wall is moulded about said plurality of applicator wicks. Preferably, a portion of the first part at or near its periphery is moulded about a portion of each applicator wick to secure them against movement relative to the first part during rotation. Intermediate portions of the first part may also be moulded about the wicks for further security if desired. In a particularly preferred form in which each wick terminates adjacent the periphery of the first part, a peripheral portion of the first part is moulded about the end portion of each wick thereby forming a cap so that liquid flowing through the wick during rotation of the applicator head is prevented from flowing out the end of the wicks. In a preferred form said second part includes a Vee-belt pulley integrally moulded therewith for receiving drive from a tractor power-take-off (PTO) or other drive source.

Terms such as vertical, horizontal, upper and lower, are used herein for the purpose of description and illustration of the invention in the position it would normally be used for the application of weedicide to a field unless clearly not appropriate, and are not intended to restrict the scope of the invention to any particular orientation.

In another aspect the invention resides broadly in an applicator, comprising:

a frame assembly adapted to be attached to or drawn by a vehicle such as a tractor;

a support shaft secured to said frame assembly and depending vertically, in use, therefrom;

a storage tank mounted on said frame assembly or adapted to be mounted on the vehicle;

a rotatable applicator head as previously described mounted on said shaft for rotation relative thereto, said shaft extending into or through said storage chamber in said applicator head and
5 said shaft having a passage therethrough, said passage being in fluid communication with said storage chamber and said storage tank for supplying liquid to said storage chamber. Preferably, said shaft also includes a second passage therethrough in fluid communication with said storage chamber and adapted to act as a
10 vent passage for venting the storage chamber.

In another aspect, the invention resides broadly in a hand held motor driven applicator including:

drive means having a drive housing and an output shaft;

a motor drivingly connected to said drive means;

15 a rotatable applicator head having a first part and a second part, the first part being moulded of a plastics material and being disk-like in form with a central recess formed therein, and said second part being secured to said first part to define a liquid storage chamber between said first and second parts for
20 storing a liquid to be applied to the surface of a field, garden or crop, and a plurality of applicator wicks extending through a wall of said recess towards the periphery of said first part and having a portion thereof within said recess, said wall being moulded about said plurality of applicator wicks and there being
25 an access opening in said second part for receiving a supply of liquid;

an elongate handle operatively connected to said drive housing by which a user may maintain said rotor assembly proximal to the surface of the field, garden or crop, whereupon said
30 applicator wicks may apply liquid to selected undesired plants upon contact therewith, and

a reservoir mounted on said elongate handle or said drive housing in fluid communication with said liquid storage chamber for supplying liquid to said liquid storage chamber via said
35 access opening while said rotatable applicator head is rotating.

In another aspect, the invention resides broadly in a method of constructing a rotor head for a motor driven applicator of the type having a first part moulded of a plastics material and being disk-like in form with a central recess formed therein and a plurality of applicator wicks extending through a wall of said
5 recess towards the periphery of the first part and having a portion thereof within the recess including:

cutting a piece of rope wick to a desired length to extend across a face of the first part;

compressing a portion of the rope wick and moulding the
10 recess wall about the compressed portion of the rope wick while it is compressed, and

allowing the plastics material to set before releasing the rope wick. It will be appreciated that the method may be carried out for a plurality of rope wicks extending through the recess
15 wall.

In yet another aspect, the invention resides broadly in a method of forming a thermoplastics product with an exposed porous component, including:

providing a component formed from a porous material;
20 supporting at least some of the porous material in a mould;
compressing a portion of the porous material supported in the mould;

injecting a thermoplastics material substantially about the compressed portion of the porous material; and
25 releasing the thermoplastics material and the porous material from the mould after the thermoplastics material has set.

In another aspect, the invention resides broadly in a thermoplastics product with one or more exposed porous components
30 manufactured in accordance with the method previously described.

Preferably, the compressing step is achieved by introducing a ram or pusher into the mould and engaging the ram with the portion of the porous material to be compressed prior to the introduction of the thermoplastics material, and injecting the
35 thermoplastics material while the portion of porous material is compressed, and then removing the ram prior to the setting of the

CLAIMS

1. A rotatable applicator head including a first part and a second part, the first part being moulded of a plastics material and being disk-like in form with a central recess formed therein, and said second part being secured to said first part to define
5 a liquid storage chamber between said first and second parts for storing a liquid to be applied to the surface of a field, garden or crop, and a plurality of applicator wicks extending through a wall of said recess towards the periphery of said first part and having a portion thereof within said recess, characterised
10 in that said wall is moulded about said plurality of applicator wicks.
2. A rotatable applicator head according to Claim 1, wherein a portion of said first part at or near its periphery is moulded
15 about a portion of each applicator wick to secure them against movement relative to said first part during rotation.
3. A rotatable applicator head according to Claim 2, wherein intermediate portions of the first part are moulded about said
20 wicks.
4. A rotatable applicator head according to Claim 1, wherein each wick terminates adjacent the periphery of said first part and a peripheral portion of said first part is moulded about the
25 end portion of each wick thereby forming a cap so that liquid flowing through the wick during rotation of the applicator head is prevented from flowing out the end of the wicks.
5. A rotatable applicator head according to Claim 1, wherein
30 said second part includes a Vee-belt pulley integrally moulded therewith for receiving drive from a tractor power-take-off (PTO) or other drive source.
6. An applicator, including:
35 a frame assembly adapted to be attached to or drawn by a vehicle such as a tractor;

a support shaft secured to said frame assembly and depending therefrom in use;

a storage tank mounted on said frame assembly or adapted to be mounted on the vehicle;

5 a rotatable applicator head as defined by any one of Claims 1 to 5 mounted on said shaft for rotation relative thereto, said shaft extending into or through said storage chamber in said applicator head and said shaft having a passage therethrough, said passage being in fluid communication with said storage chamber and said storage tank for supplying liquid to said
10 storage chamber.

7. An applicator according to Claim 6, wherein said shaft includes a second passage therethrough in fluid communication with said storage chamber and adapted to act as a vent for
15 venting said storage chamber.

8. A hand held motor driven applicator including:
drive means having a drive housing and an output shaft;
a motor drivingly connected to said drive means;
20 a rotatable applicator head having a first part and a second part, the first part being moulded of a plastics material and being disk-like in form with a central recess formed therein, and said second part being secured to said first part to define a liquid storage chamber between said first and second parts for
25 storing a liquid to be applied to the surface of a field, garden or crop, and a plurality of applicator wicks extending through a wall of said recess towards the periphery of said first part and having a portion thereof within said recess, said wall being moulded about said plurality of applicator wicks and there being
30 an access opening in said second part for receiving a supply of liquid;

an elongate handle operatively connected to said drive housing by which a user may maintain said rotor assembly proximal to the surface of the field, garden or crop, whereupon said
35 applicator wicks may apply liquid to selected undesired plants upon contact therewith, and

a reservoir mounted on said elongate handle or said drive housing in fluid communication with said liquid storage chamber for supplying liquid to said liquid storage chamber via said access opening while said rotor assembly is rotating.

- 5 9. A method of constructing a rotatable applicator head for a motor driven applicator of the type having a first part moulded of a plastics material and being disk-like in form with a central recess formed therein and a plurality of applicator wicks extending through a wall of said recess towards the periphery of
10 said first part and having a portion thereof within said recess, including;

cutting a piece of rope wick to a desired length to extend across a face of said first part;

- compressing a portion of the rope wick and moulding said
15 recess wall about said compressed portion of said rope wick while said rope wick is compressed, and

allowing the plastics material to set before releasing said rope wick.

- 20 10. A method of forming a thermoplastics product with an exposed porous component, including:

providing a component formed from a porous material;

supporting at least some of the porous material in a mould;

- compressing a portion of the porous material supported in
25 the mould;

injecting a thermoplastics material about the compressed portion of porous material; and

- releasing the thermoplastics material and the porous material from the mould after the thermoplastics material has
30 set.

11. A method according to Claim 9 or Claim 10, wherein the compressing step is achieved by introducing a ram or pusher into the mould and engaging the ram with the portion of the porous
35 material to be compressed prior to the introduction of the thermoplastics material, and injecting the thermoplastics

material while the portion of porous material is compressed, and then removing the ram prior to the setting of the thermoplastics material, whereby the thermoplastics material back-fills the space previously taken up by the ram as it is withdrawn prior to solidification of the thermoplastics material.

5

12. A method according to any one of claims 9 to 11, wherein the characteristics of the materials and the parameters of the moulding process, particularly the temperature and injecting pressure, are selected such that some of the thermoplastics material penetrates part-way into the porous material in the moulding step.

13. A method according to any one of claims 9 to 12, including cutting the rope with a hot blade to prevent fraying of the ends, and pressing the cut end into a V-shape.

14. A thermoplastics product with one or more exposed porous components manufactured in accordance with Claim 10.

15. A rotatable applicator head as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings.

16. An applicator as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings.

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17. A hand held motor driven applicator as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings.

18. A method of constructing a rotatable applicator head as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings.

30

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/AU 00/01004

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER				
Int Cl ⁷ : A01M 21/04, E01H 11/00, B29C 45/14				
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC				
B. FIELDS SEARCHED				
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC A01-, E01H 11/, B29C 45/14, B29F 1/00				
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched AU: IPC as above				
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) DWPI				
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.		
Y	WO 98/47355A1 (WEEDBUG PTY LTD) 29 October 1998 Whole document	1-9		
Y	WO 95/21524 A1 (WEEDBUG PTY LTD) 17 August 1995 Whole document	1-9		
X	US 5792407A (BERZACK) 11 August 1998	10-14		
Y	Whole document	1-9		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex				
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>"A" Document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p> </td> </tr> </table>			<p>"A" Document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>
<p>"A" Document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>			
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report 29 NOV 2000		
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200 WODEN ACT 2606 AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No.: (02) 6285 3929		Authorized officer ZBIGNIEW BIELAWSKI Telephone No.: (02) 6283 2218		

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU 00/01004

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	US 5690881A (HORIE et al) 25 November 1997 Whole document	10-14 1-9
X Y	EP 517615A1 (ALLIBERT S.A.) 9 December 1992 Whole document	10-14 1-9
X Y	FR 2614827A1 (MERMET PASCAL) 10 November 1988 Whole document	10-14 1-9

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/AU 00/01004

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:
See extra sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU 00/01004

Supplemental Box

Continuation of Box No: II

The international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention because it does not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. In coming to this conclusion the International Searching Authority has found that there are different inventions as follows:

1. Claims 1 to 9 are directed to a rotatable applicator head, a hand held motor driven applicator including a rotatable applicator head and a method of constructing a rotatable applicator head wherein a wall about a recess on a part of the head is moulded about plurality of applicator wicks. It is considered that the underlined feature comprises a first "special technical feature".
2. Claims 10 to 14 (claim 13 when appended to claim 10) are directed to a method of forming a thermoplastic product wherein a thermoplastic material is injected about a compressed portion of porous material. It is considered that the underlined feature comprises a second "special technical feature".

Since the abovementioned groups of claims do not share any of the technical features identified, a "technical relationship" between the inventions, as defined in PCT rule 13.2 does not exist. Accordingly the international application does not relate to one invention or to a single inventive concept, a priori.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/AU 00/01004

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report				Patent Family Member			
WO	98/47355	AU	70138/98	BR	9804856	CA	2259376
		DK	59/99	EP	1011325	FI	982814
		GB	2329318	NO	990654	US	6032592
		ZA	9803284	AU	17341/99		
WO	95/21524	AU	17010/95	BR	9506785	CA	2183316
		CN	1145019	CZ	9602380	EP	746198
		FI	963171	HU	76729	NO	963354
		NZ	279768	PL	315895	US	5875587
		ZA	9501171				
US	5792407	NONE					
US	5690881	NONE					
EP	517615	CA	2084625	FR	2677297		
END OF ANNEX							